IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Takafumi KIKUCHI et al.

Serial No.

Art Unit:

Filed: concurrently herewith

Examiner:

For: DATA PROCESSING

APPARATUS AND DATA PROCESSING METHOD

Atty Docket: 0121/0035

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Before examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Cancel claims 21 and 22.

Add new claims 23 and 24.